Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of forming a platinum aluminide diffusion barrier on a ~~metallic substrate which comprises a~~ titanium alloy substrate, the method comprising the steps of:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

b) performing a reaction treatment on the thus applied platinum and aluminium which comprises subjecting the platinum particles and the aluminium particles to a temperature in the range of about 200°C to about 600°C for a time sufficient for the reaction between the platinum and the aluminium to form a diffusion barrier on the ~~metallic~~ substrate.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided an oxidation resistant structure comprising a ~~metallic~~ titanium alloy substrate (eg a titanium alloy aerospace component or portion thereof) and a platinum aluminide diffusion barrier disposed thereon, wherein the structure is formed by the method according to the first aspect of the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided an oxidation resistant aerospace component comprising a ~~metallic substrate comprising~~ a titanium alloy substrate and a substantially uniform platinum aluminide diffusion barrier disposed thereon,

said diffusion barrier being formed by the method according to the first aspect of the present invention.